

REMARKS

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed August 21, 2003.

Claims 29-54 and 58-82 were pending in the Application prior to the outstanding Office Action. In the Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 32-37, 41-46, 58-63 and 71-82, rejected claims 47, 52-54 and 67-70.

Claims 29-31, 38-40, 48-51 and 64-66 were previously withdrawn without prejudice or disclaimer to later re-instating the claims in this application or re-presenting the claims in a continuing application. In order to expedite issuance of other claims, Applicants are currently cancelling these claims without prejudice or disclaimer. Additionally, claims 47 and 52-54 are also being cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, in order to expedite issuance of the remaining claims.

Claim 67 has been amended.

The remaining pending claims include claims 32-37, 41-46, 58-63 and 67-82.

I. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 47, 67 and 68 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 4,284,420 to Borysiak. Claims 52-54, 69 and 70 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Borysiak in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,318,718 to Utsumi et al.

In order to expedite issuance of the remaining claims, independent claim 47, and its dependent claims 52-54 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the inventions therein. Thus, the only remaining outstanding rejections are of independent claim 67 and its dependent claims 68-70.

In the Allowable Subject Matter section of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that certain claims were allowable “because the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest the step of rotating an electro-kinetic conditioner or its housing to permit movement of a cleaning device along a wire or emitter electrode.” Claim 67 as amended now recites the steps of “rotating the electro-kinetic air conditioner from an original position so that the cleaning device travels along the electrode and frictionally removes contaminates from the outer surface of the electrode” and “returning the electro-kinetic air conditioner to

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the original position." Accordingly, it is believed that claim 67, and its dependent claims 68-70, should now be in condition for allowance.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 32-37, 41-46, 58-63 and 71-82 are allowed.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and a Notice of Allowance is requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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